

loans will be granted and the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Losses in Banks

7041. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the loss of colossal amount of money by the public sector banks through lending to non-credit-worthy individuals and corporate groups;

(b) if so, what is the extent of such losses;

(c) whether responsibility has been fixed for such losses;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a commission of inquiry to investigate into all acts of malfeasance by delinquent bank officials; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALBIR SINGH): (a) Banks being institutions, the possibility of certain advances turning sticky and thereby resulting in losses to the concerned banks is inherent in the system.

(b) The formats of 'balance sheet' and profit & Loss account of banks, as set out in the Third Schedule of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, do not provide for such information.

(c) All irregularities are investigated and appropriate remedial action is taken wherever necessary.

(d) and (e). The existing systems and procedures obtaining in public sector banks with regard to scrutiny of affairs by internal inspectors, external statutory auditors as also RBI's periodic inspections are considered adequate. The Central Bureau of Investigation has also jurisdiction over the banks and investigate cases on the request of Government, Reserve Bank of India, banks and even suo-motu.

[Translation]

Expressway from Ahmedabad to Vadodara

7042. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the Expressway project from Ahmedabad to Vadodara has been considerably delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount sanctioned for this project and the time by which it is scheduled to be completed;

(d) the cost overrun due to delay in the construction of this Expressway; and

(e) the measures taken so far to ensure early completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delay in execution of the project has been due to poor performance of the contractors.

(c) The original sanctioned cost was Rs. 137.20 crores and the work is presently scheduled for completion by December, 1994.